



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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*Eastern District of Virginia*

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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Paul J. McNulty, Acting Deputy Attorney General and United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced the sentencing of Dwight Whorley, age 52, of Richmond, Virginia, on child pornography charges. United States District Judge Henry E. Hudson sentenced Whorley to 240 months' imprisonment.

Whorley was convicted on November 30, 2005, after a four-day jury trial, of using a public computer at a Virginia Employment Commission ("VEC") office on March 30, 2004, to receive twenty obscene Japanese anime cartoons that graphically depicted prepubescent female children being forced to engage in genital-genital and oral-genital intercourse with adult males. Whorley was convicted under a new federal statute enacted in 2003 that criminalizes the production, distribution, or receipt of, or the possession with intent to distribute obscene drawings, cartoons, sculptures, paintings, or any other obscene visual representation of the sexual abuse of children. Whorley's conviction for receiving cartoons is the first conviction under the statute that was not based on actual photographs of children.

The jury also convicted Whorley of receiving fourteen digital photographs of real children engaging in sexually explicit conduct and of sending and receiving twenty obscene E-mails which graphically described, among other things, parents sexually molesting their own children.

At the time of his arrest in this case, Whorley was a registered sex offender who was convicted in March 1999, on a federal charge of receiving child pornography and was sentenced to 46 months' incarceration. In January 2003, after serving that sentence and while on supervised release for his earlier conviction, Whorley was re-arrested for violating the conditions of his probation. Whorley subsequently pled guilty to violating the conditions of his release and was sentenced to an additional 12 months of incarceration to be followed by 12 months of supervision by the United States Probation Office. He was arrested on the present charges on April 5, 2005, just three months after being released from incarceration, when United States Probation Officers learned that Whorley had received child pornography by using a computer at the VEC.

Also announcing the sentence are Alice S. Fisher, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; and Donald Thompson, Special Agent-In-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Richmond Division.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sara E. Flannery and Damon A. King, Deputy Chief of the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS). The case was investigated by a Special Agent of the FBI and James M. Fottrell of CEOS' High Technology Investigative Unit.